FREE INDIA

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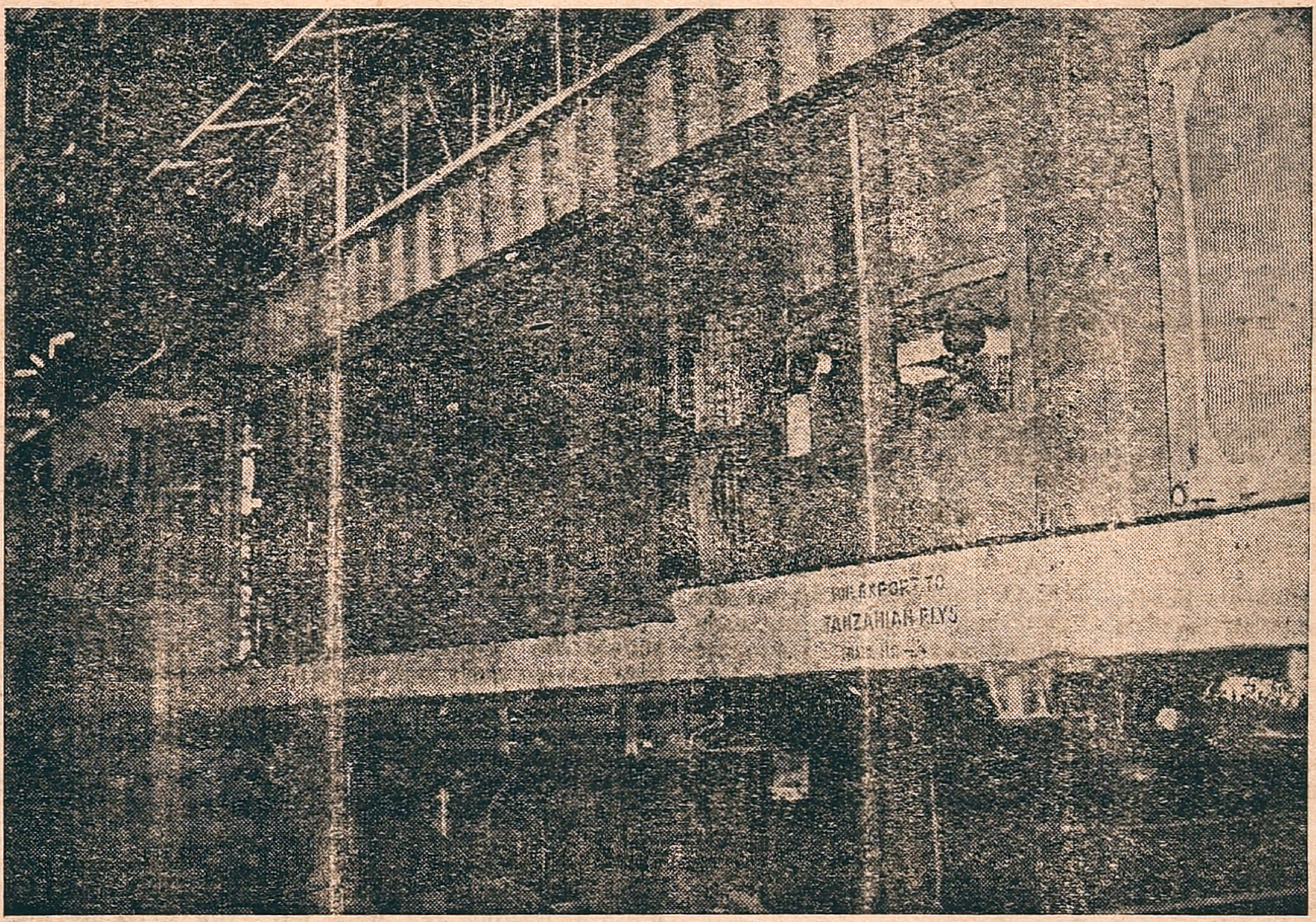
Export Of Rail Engines



India is to day one of the leading manufacturer of Railway equipment. The Inegral Coach Factory, Tata Electrical and Locomotive Co., Chittaranjan Loco Works and other workshops in our country turn out railway equipment which are of very high standard. There is great demand for our equipments abroad. For example, we have exported one Diesel Engine to Tanzania rencently and have a contract to supply fifteen more engines with that country. Apart from this we will be exporting 5 steamengines, 17 rail coaches and 30 oil tankers by the middle of this year.

Picture shows a diesel engine manufactured in India ready for export.

SOUTH INDIA'S FINEST PICTORIAL WEEKLY

FUN AND LAUGHTER

DESCRIPTION

A lady of ample girth once attended a rehearsal with W.S. Gilbert. Sir William was summoned backstage, and when he returned his guest was missing He asked a nearby stagehand when the friend had gone. "Oh" answered the stagehand pointing backstage, "she's round behind".

"I asked you," retorted Gilbert, "for her geography not her description !"

* * *

TIT FOR TAT

Recently, in a Midwestern university, an instructor didn't show up on time for a class. He had evidently been there and stepped out, for his hat was on his desk. But, after 15 minutes, the impatient students left.

The following period the instructor announced that he had marked everyone absent for the session before.

"But," objected the students, "you weren't here. We waited until 15 minutes after the hour."

"Nevertheless," insisted the instructor, "my hat was on the desk, and that is the same as if I were here myself."

That closed the discussion—or did it? When the professor entered the classroom for the next meeting, he found the class room full of hats but not a student in sight.

* * *

NO SLEEP

"How's your insomnia?"

"Worse. Can't even sleep when it's time to get up."

* * *

LOVE SICK

"Dearest Betty" wrote Frank, who was hopelessly in love "I would swim the mighty ocean for one glance from your dear eyes, I would walk through a wall of flame for one touch of your tiny hands. I would leap the widest stream in the world for a word from your lovely lips. As always, your Frank.

"P.S—I'll be there on Saturday night if my toothache is better."

* * *

WATERLOO

The class was going through a lesson in French history. The teacher pointed to a 10-year od lad. "Stand up Jones," he said, "and tell the class the name of Napoleon's wife."

"Waterloo", replied the boy swiftly.

"No, no, Jones," scolded the teacher.

"That's where Napoleon was defeated."

"Served him right" snapped the boy, "He should've remained single."

EXCHANGE

A subaltern, walking through Hyde Park with a high stepper, met his Company Commander.

"This is my sister," he explained bashfully.

"That's all right," the C.C. replied kindly, "she used to be mine."

THE CREDITOR

The Smiths were entertaining and Mr. Smith was doing his utmost to impress his guests.

"I think I shall get a car this year," he said off handedly. "I haven't decided what make, but I won't get a cheap one. Probably I could get a serviceable affair for about seven hundred or so."

Whilst his guests were gaping at the careless mention of so much money, Smith's youngest son remarked: "And will that funny little man with the big black whiskers call every week as he did when you bought my bike?"

* *

BIGGEST !

Jones, a raw recruit doing his first guard, was given explicit instructions by the N.C.O. He was told to shoulder arms to a lieutenant or captain present arms to a major or colonel, and to turn out the guard once a day to the C.O.

Jones duly carried out all that was expected of him, and, quite thinking he had done enough for the day, took no notice when an elderly man in uniform approached his post.

Much put out, the elderly man went up to Jones and said:—

"What might you be?"

"Oh, I'm a bit of a sentry," was the reply. "What might you be?"

'Oh,' said the elderly man, "I'm a bit of a general."

"Ah," said Jones. "The N.C.O. told me about all the others but, he didn't say anything about a general. I suppose you want something big?" And he forthwith proceeded to give the bayonet exercise !

* * *

PRECAUTIONS

Doctor : "What precautions do you take against microbes?"

Patient : "First, I boil the water."

Doctor : "Yes; and then?"

Patient : "I sterilize it."

Doctor : "That's right; and then?"

Patient : "I drink beer."

* * *

HER WORRY !

"Daughter," said the mother, "didn't I tell you not to let strange men come to your apartment? You know things like that worry me."

"Don't be ridiculous, Mother!" laughed the girl. "I went to his apartment this time. Now, let *his* mother worry !"

* * *

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

Sentry : "Halt! Who goes there?"

Voice : "Army chaplain."

Sentry : "Advance, Charlie Chaplin, to be recognised. But don't be so blasted funny next time."

AS MOSCOW DOES !

An official of the State Department encountered a member of the Polish Embassy accounted with raincoat and umbrella. "Are you expecting rain?" asked the official.

"No", the Pole replied, "but we just got word that it's raining in Moscow."

* * *

STIFF CLIMB

Two perspiring Irishmen on a tandem bicycle at last got to the top of the steep hill. "That was a stiff climb, Pat," said one.

"It was that," said Pat "And if I hadn't kept the brake on we would have gone backward, sure."

* * *

TOO COSTLY

Jack Yellan ran into a doctor friend who was holding his head between his hands and groaning: "I've got to see a psychiatrist !"

"But you're a psychiatrist," said Jack.

"I know," was the retort "but I charge too much."

* * *

NOT SELF-TAUGHT

A rather stout young fellow, who was training to be an officer failed in an examination on "tactics." This riled his instructor, who called him aside to give the usual slating.

Instructor : "You seem to be better fed than taught, young man."

Young Officer: "That's easily explained, sir. You see, you do the teaching, but I feed myself."

* * *

EXPLANATION TO COME

Staff Colonel : "Your reports should be written in such manner that even the most ignorant may understand them."

Sergeant: "Well, sir, what part is it that you don't understand?"

* * *

HIS SURPRISE

"Good Heavens! How terrible!" cried the professor as he finished reading the note left behind by his daughter who had run away.

"Why, whatever is the matter, dear?" asked his wife.

The professor handed her the letter.

"So she's eloped with that officer," was the wife's calm comment. "Well, I can't say it's a complete surprise."

"But she's spelt elloped' with two ll's;"

* *

NON-INTERVENTION

"Does that man collect rents?"

"Good heavens, no".

"Then, who is he?"

"Oh, he's the rent collector."

* * *

TACT

Doctor : "Have you told Mr. Brown he's the father of twins?"

Nurse : "No, he's shaving."

* * *

If a woman attracts men, she has sex appeal! if she attracts women, style; if she attracts everybody, charm.

IN A MINUTE

"For the last time," a husband shouted toward the bedroom "are you ready to go?"

'For heaven's sake, be quiet", retorted his wife. "I've been telling you for the last hour that I'll be ready in a minute."

* * *

CAUSE

A New York debutante went into a swanky shop and tried on a simple little hat. Told that its price was $20, she asked: "What makes the price so exorbitant? '

"The exorbitant profits, Madam," replied the saleswoman without a flicker of the eye.

* * *

NOT SURE

An actor, discussing the previous night's party, asked his wife: "Was that you I kissed out in the patio?"

The little lady thought for a moment then countered: "About what time, dear?"

* * *

IGNORANT

An insurance agent was filling in a policy form. "Have you ever had appendicitis?" he asked the applicant.

"Well, I'm not sure," was the reply. "I was operated on—but I've never been quite certain whether it was appendicitis or professional curiosity."

* * *

LABELLED WITH CARE !

She was sick in bed, and her husband, who was fixing her a cup of tea, called out that he couldn't find the tea. "I don't know what could be easier to find," she answered. "It's right in front on the pantry shelf in a cocoa tin marked matches."

* * *

HEAD FOR FIGURES

"There isn't one man in a million—no, not one in *ten* million—who would be so mean to his wife and children as you are!" shrieked a householder.

"Now that's what I admire in you dear," rejoined her husband. "You have such a head for figures !"

* * *

BITER BIT

"Lady Nancy Astor, who is noted for her sharp tongue, once got annoyed at Churchill. "Winston," she said sharply, "if you were my husband I'd put poison in your coffee."

"Nancy," replied Churchill, "if I were your husband I'd drink that coffee."

* * *

INVENTORY !

"I love your eyes," cried her lover, "your lips, your hair, your arms..."

"What are you doing," she interrupted, "making love or making an inventory?"

* * *

SIMPLE

School boy: How did you count the number of sheep while sitting in a running train?

Maths. Teacher: Simple. I just counted their legs and divided the result by four.

* * *

GOOD INVESTMENT

"The round trip to the Coast is a good investment, dear," commented the wife, to which the influential man replied. "Of course, my dear, at least you get a return for your money."

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Governor Calls For Planned Rural Development

Mr.K.K Shah, Governor of Tamil Nadu stressed the need for planning from the lowest level i.e. from the village level for the over all development of the country, while inaugurating an one day seminar of Science and Technology for Rural Development at Ghandhigram near Madurai last Sunday.

The Seminar was jointly organised by the Rural Institute of Gandhigram, The Indian Institute of Technology, Madras and the Tamil Nadu Centre of the Institution of Engineers (India).

He also referred to the Rural Reconstruction project at Somangalam in Chingleput District to be inaugurated by the Prime Minister Smt Indira Gandhi. Ten villages in the area will be covered by the project. This project was inspired by the successful working of the Gandhigram.

Mr Shah further said that, if development becomes lopsided, it poses a threat to democracy. If planning is not done at village level, there will be a vast difference between developed urban areas and the undeveloped rural areas. Urban India will then attract migration of people from rural area and create compulsions of gigantic dimensions. In a backward econmy or a developing economy where employment opportunities are to be created on a massive scale, we need not disregard employment opportunities in rural area. Now electricity has reached most of the rural area. Modern means of cultivation like tractors, etc. have penetrated into the remotest parts of rural India. Tube wells, lift irrigation, etc. have become popular. We need repair shops. We need nuts, bolts and other small spare parts, We need electricians and other mechanics. Modern sophisticated implements can convert traditional sources of employment into small scale industries. Planning at village level will create opportunities for employment and self-employment. In addition traditional arts, cottage industries crafts and other vocations would then wear a new and prosperous look and will add to productivity by employing modern means of production and techniques of finish, packing and marketing Local raw materials which are wasted will become feeders of small scale enterprises turning out consumer articles at cheaper cost.

At present more than 70% of rural population depends on agriculture. If we want to raise their standard of living, we should plan for Agro-industrial base so that not more than 30% of rural population is dependent on agriculture. Our educational pattern needs re-orientation. It should be job oriented.

We are passing through a critical phase. Indiscipline was mounting. Irresponsibility was looked upon as the only criteria for mass leadership, An attempt was made to take democracy to streets. Productivity was on holidays. Organized strength was used for personal interests and interest of common man was neglected. Dark clouds were threatening a storm. It is on such a momentous occasion that Indira Gandhi rose to full heights and put democracy on track. Descipline alone can strengthen democracy. She is trying to translate Mahatmaji's concept of Ram rajya through 20 point programme. Ramrajya is possible only through Gramrajya which can be a reality only when planning is started from village level as local resources are mobilised with the help of scientific inventions and modern technology. Self employment on a massive scale is the only answer to galloping unemployment.

Gandhiji was a great economist. When he pleaded for rural reconstruction and planning at rural level, he was cost conscious. He advocated industries being taken to sources of raw material. It is always Cheaper to tranport finished goods than to transport raw material It is cheaper to prevent exodus and to take advantage of facilities already existing. What we spent on slum clearance, water supply, sanitation, roads, transports, etc. to rehabilitate those who migrate to urban area would have provided capital for industrialisation of rural India.

While pleading for planning at Village level, let us remember that Gandhiji was not opposed to science and technology. All

(Contd. on page 10)

Smt. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, who is on a tour of the Southern States of Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu is seen addressing a gathering. In Madras she will be addressing a rally of the United Congress party on Feb. 15.

THUS SPAKE THE MAHATMA

There is himsa in the use of antiseptics, yet I cannot bring myself to discard the use of disinfectants like kerosene, etc., to rid myself of the mosquito pest and the like.

ASOKA SCENTED BETEL NUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY Feb. 15, 1976

TASK AHEAD

Like rats from a sinking ship, the D M K. men have started deserting their party. And surprisingly they are seeking asylum in the Congress Party. Congress are on the alert and have decided to screen the entrants and put them on probation.

Normally these steps are enough to protect the Congress party but some reports say that local-bosses in a few centres are trying to help their DMK friends by giving them membership in the party. We hope the merged Congress will be more vigilant in this respect.

The first fortnight of President's rule has exposed most of the corruption spots in the state. The important ones affecting everyday life of the people are the Panchayat Unions, cooperative institutions (especially credit societies) and the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment board. Misuse of police for strengthening the party is also mentioned.

Like the Nixon rule, which revealed the weaknesses of the American system of Government, the DMK rule has shown how the existing system can take corruption to the grass roots.

It is no easy task to restore respectability to politics in the state. But sincere efforts by the patriotic among the top brass may bring about normalcy to the demoralised administration.

The advisers are men with proved abilities and we believe that with their help, the state will raise to be the vanguard of the nation in fulfilling the 20-point programme of the Prime Minister.

A Great Leap Forward-A Decade Of Fulfilment

By N. G. CHANDRASEKHARIAH

The travails of the Indian economy in the past mwany, namely, the results of the two unforeseen wars, unprecedented drought which followed, consequent of these, the industrial recession and rampant indiscipline in the political and economic life of the people. Even then whole economy did not stumble from the path of progress. Thanks to the bold leadership, the country was saved from the growing malaise.

In a country like India with social and political diversities the development is not smooth. Some times nature also plays its role to make normal behaviour into an abnormal one. The plan activities have been continued in greater vigour and dimension but fruits of the developments have been shared by some groups only. This resulted in the growth of social and economic inequalities and wealth began to be concentrated in the hands of few persons, who indulged in conspicuous consumption of wealth. In course of time, smuggling also was rampant in the country. The black money in its huge dimension created a parallel economy eclipsing the real money economy. Such was the fate of the country. Very recently the alround indiscipline led to demoralisaton, industrial unrest with terrible strikes and lockouts which resulted in tremendous loss in production of wealth. The development was also affected by several extreneous forces. The Bangla crisis was not a sugar-coated pill to swallow. The flood of refugees to this country at a time when there was serious food shortage and Westerners were hostile, worsened the economy. The country had to save its neighbour Bangladesh from collapse. All these stresses and strains had to borne patiently by the country.

DEMON OF INFLATION

The next demon which ransacked the country was inflation. The annual rate of inflation jumped from the average of 4 per cent in 1971-72 to 10 per cent in 1972-73 and to 32 per cent in the first half of 1974-75. This was the sharpest rate of increase in prices in post-war years reaching its peak in the third week of September 1974. In these circumstances, control of inflation became the foremost concern of the Government. This required a bold and purposeful leadership to save the country's economy from collapse. Another equally disturbing factor towards the rapid growth of economy was unemployment particularly of the educated youth. All these are some of the adverse factors which were haunting the economy severely. The Government had to take up several bold steps to arrest such impediment. This became possible only in this decade.

The events of the decade of 1965-1975 find a promineint place in the history of India in many respects. The achievements of the decade surpass the achievements of the previous decades in many fields.

FALL IN PRICES

The year of 1966 was the year of initiation of HYV programme on a big scale towards solving the food crisis. The year also is to be rememb red because it was in that year the Prices Commission was set up to recommend prices which are both remunerative to the farmers and also reasonable to consumers. The Food Corporation of India was set up to buy the entire marketable surplus. Thus the crucial stage of agricultural development in the name of green revolution, began in 1966 and fruits of that development are being enjoyed in 1976.

The agricultural production has increased considerably during this decade and all time record of 119 million tonnes is expected to be achieved in this year. The area under irrigation during this decade has almost doubled. The irrigation potential today stands at 5.7 crores hectares. The recent rainfall inspite of great floods, have dettered the prospects of Indian agriculture. Many parts of the country are reaping bumper harvests today. The supply position of essential commodities like foodgrains, edible oil and various articles of mass consumption has improved. The prices of essntial commodities have also fallen by 10 to 15 per cent since last four to five months. The distribution of essential commodities through controlled shops have helped the poorer sections of the society to buy most of their requirements at controlled prices. All these have brought a great relief to the people, even jubilation in many parts of the country. The demon of inflation has been vanquished, by means of fiscal, monetary and political measures.

Steps have also been taken to revive both public and private investments. Achievement on the inflation front is more impressive in India than in many other parts of the world. price level has been brought under control despite the expansionary money policy which has been necessitated by the demand for resources to meet the development efforts.

The achievement in the power sector is also impressive, despite shortage of machinery, coal and otherarticles which arose during this period. The production of power has increased from 10.17 million KW in 1965-66 to 20.15 million KW in 1974-75. In the field of rural electrification, the number of villages electrified has increased from 45,000 to 1, 70, 000 and number of wells incr eased from 5 lakhs to 24 lakhs. These are all tremendous achievements in the rural sector, which have greatly contributed to rural prosperity.

The most significant achivement has been in the field of public sector. Today it is not looked anti-capitalistic. It has become a part and parcel of the country's economy. The State during this decade had to consolidate the public sector enterprises which were established in the previous decade. During this period the Government's philosophy also underwent a major change. Bank nationalisation, taking over the sick industrial units, nationalisation of coal mines were all great achievements of the decade. Common people to day can have easy access with the nationalised bank in the country. The expansion of small scale industries in the country is also phenomenal. The dream of late Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, the then prime Minister of India to make India great has been fulfilled by the present prime Minister in this decade.

TECHNOLOGY

Technologically, India has emerged as a developed country among the developing countries. Indian designs and technology have been appreciated even in western countries. The country, when once was depending upon the imports of technology, today has become the exporter of technology. It is due to the efforts of the Prime Minister, India achieved the status of a nuclear power, but the country has determined to use it for peace and development purposes only.

In the fields of foreign trade perfomance of export not only in diversification but al o in finding new areas is really impressive. The country which was, all along experiencing chronic deficit in balance of payments was able to achieve a marginal surplus of 104 crores of rupees in 1972-73. The annual export increased from Rs. 805 crores in 1965 66 to Rs 3400 crores in 1974-75. New commodities like sugar, machinery, iron ore etc., are bringing sizeable amount of foreign exchange. But alas it has not come to our rescue in overcoming foreign exchange

(Contd. on page 9)

WOMEN POLICE IN INDIA

The induction of women into police is no longer a subject of controversy. The advent of three women in the Indian Police Service and their successful participation in common training programme with men has put an end to all qualms about women joining the police. Moreover, the concept of policing has undergone a significant change and in certain spheres of police activity, the effectiveness of women police is well established by the success of the pioneering efforts made by several States in the country.

The rapidly changing socio-economic and political conditions have added a new dimension to the problem of policing. In several States increasing participation of women has been noticed in political agitations, bundhs, communal riots and student demonstrations. Groups including women, that were formerly silent now demand to be heard. The ever-growing partcauses parl of women in agitations causen extra burden on police force, particularly in view of the delicacy of the problem of handling women while enforcing law.

In addition to all this, the Government have enacted a whole range of social laws such as the Children Act, the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, the Beggars Act, the Young Persons (Harmful Publications) Act. Various other measures have also been taken for the protection of weaker sections of society including women and children. The advancement in education, growth of political awareness and increasing employment of women in diverse sections of industry and administration have brought them into the vortex of public agitations.

Juveniles were responsible for 2.7 per cent of the total cognizable crime under the Indian Penal Code during 1960-70. The number of juveniles apprehended by the police rose from 49,276 in 1960 to 98,845 in 1970. The percentage in the case of boys over the year 1960 was 101.8 while in the case of girls, increase was 77.4.

Similarly, the incidence of cases reported under the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956, throughout the country went up by 61.4 per cent during the years 1966–70 The percentage increase over 1969 was 41.8. The information that is available regarding the women convicts and under-trial prisoners from 1969 shows an upward trend of 45.5 per cent during this period. A careful study of these figures shows that the need for women police units suitably trained in their task is increasing very fast.

In our country almost all States and Union Territories have women police as an adjunct to the State police force. The statewise break up of women police shows that Maharashtra tops the list with Gujarat in the second place.

The strength of women police has increased considerably in the last few years. This has been prompted by local demands and the proven utility of the women police in police force.

There is no uniformity in the pattern of deployment of women police contingents. In some States as in Manipur the entire contingent is situated at headquarters and the force is deployed in the mofussil areas as and when requsied. In Delhi the force is allocated partly to the CID and security and to the district police. A major portion is kept in reserve for dealing with agitations.

In principle, the women officers have the same task as their male counterparts. Legally also there is no distinction between men police and women police. In practice, however, the police women are frequently used for certain specialised or select tasks to which they are considered more suited than man. The chief duties ordinarily performed by the women police are helping the investigation of offences involving women and children, tracing missing women and children, keeping a watch over places of ill fame, recovering minor girls from brothels, recovery of women and girls involved in abduction and kidnapping, collection of intelligence, interrogation of juveniles, women offenders and women agitators. They also help in keeping order in women's meetings and processions, satyagrahas, fair and places of pilgrimage during festivals.

The recruitment of women police force in various States of India has followed more or less the normal pattern of police organisation in each State. Only at the level of inspectors and above, experience in social work or higher educational qualifications in social sciences are insisted upon. The bulk of the women police consist of constabulory, which by and large are neither trained nor psychologically attuned to carry out the sensitive tasks of interrogation and investigation of offences involving women and children. A general survey shows that the cultural and social level of the women constabulory is not high. Taking into consideration the increasing involvement of the police in the enforcement of social legislation, the changing role of the police with particular reference to the weaker sections of the society it can be asserted that the constabulory so recruited with minimum education and low cultural backround do not subscribe to the objectives and philosophy of women police in the country.

Women police have a positive role to play in several areas of law enforcement and consequently there is bound to be a rising demand for their organisational growth on sound lines. A number of connecting issues have to be carefully examined to ensure that womn police units as a necessary adjunct to the police system are designed to meet effectively the challenges of tomorrow. Steps should be taken to attract better types of police women proper educational and cultural backgrounds a suitable training programme should be designed with adequate emphasis on the

(Contd. on page 9)

Pioneers Of Transport — Roger Bacon

From earliest time man has looked skywards, regretting his earthbound state and wishing he could emulate the flight of birds. As a young boy Roger Bacon, with his lively enquiring mind, must have already started wondering how man could take to the air as he watched birds soaring above his native Somerset countryside.

The exact birthdate of this medieval scholar is unknown but it was probably around 1214. Before his family's support for King Henry III against the Barons brought them banishment and poverty, they enjoyed wealth and prestige and Roger was brought up in a privileged home, educated by private tutors.

It was a great day for the studious youth when he set off for Oxford to become one of the earliest students at its university. There he hoped to find masters who would encourage his love of science and languages. He was an apt pupil and after taking his degree of Master of Arts went to Paris to continue his studies.

He remained in Paris for many years, winning great renown as an original thinker and attracting many students to his lectures. He devoted his greatest effort to the advacement of science, believing scientific truth could only be discovered by exeperiment, not by learned discussion, the traditional school of thought.

(Contd. on next page)

The Jealous Husband And The Intrepid Lover

By ANTON CHEKHOV

Archivist Obluchkov was standing at the door and eavesdropping. On the other side, to his great horror, things were being said which would have made the very Devil blench!

The boss himself, Arkhip Arkhipych, was talking... He was being listened to by personages of his own kind...

"What a girl I saw yesterday, mes amis!"—and he smacked his senile lips—"A wonderful girl!"

And the boss made with his mouth the kind of noise which is often heard at the sight of a tasty sturgeon.

"A wonderful girl .

"But where?" asked one of the mes amis.

"I paid a visit the other day to the archivist... Obluchkov... the one who looks like a monkey when he's sideways on... I visit them all after the New Year... It's sort of... Well... the done thing... Liberal! Hee-hee-hee! I'm putting you on the same footing as myself, you rabble... but just you watch your step! ...Hee-hee-hee! And they love me... The boss, they say, is wonderful... Hmmm... Well... I call on Obluchkov.... I ring the bell... He's not at home... Who is, then?... The lady of the house, I'm told... I go inside... Just imagine, mon cher, a little, chubby, rosy-cheeked... pretty... Hee-hee-hee... I go inside... She jumps up from the settee and... she goes white in the face ... She's scared of the boss... I sit down. We talk about this, that and the other... I say nice things to her and I chuck her under her chubby... round... little chin..."

Obluchkov turned pale and frowned.

"I chuck her under the chin... She blushes... We get talking... Such a naive little woman! I absolutely adore naivete in these women! I can't stand those who are not naive! I sit beside her on the settee... She doesn't resist... I put my arm round her waist... Hee-hee-hee... Devilish pretty, she is!"

Obluchkov blinked and went bright red in the face. A respectful, timid man, he felt a sudden powerful urge to hit that distinguished bald patch. The poor archivist loved his wife!

"Mmmm... I put my arm round her waist... And then I give her a kiss on she cheek."

"You never did!' said an ami.

"I did, I swear it! On... on the cheek! Hee-hee-hee!... 'I am only allowing you to kiss me, Your Excellency", she says, 'because you're good... and kind...' and she plants me one smack on the head!"

Obluchkov felt his knees giving way under him. His teeth began chattering with fury.

"On the head!... So I kiss her on the throat... Hee-hee! Fancy an ugly-mug like Obluchkov having a wonderful woman like her! It's incredible! Ah... She's hot! She's on fire! In the end she asks me for a bracelet... I promise her one... He-hee-hee! I'll send Obluchkov somewhere on Saturday night... To hell with him, I'll go and see her... I can savour it already!.... Hee-hee-hee!..."

Obluchkov began to choke... He clutched his chest with one hand and the door-handle with the other... One more second of this and... he wouldn't be able to stand it any longer!

"Well, what next? A row of dots?" asked an ami.

"Hm... how can I put it? Almost... Almost... When I was holding her in my arms and our lips melted together in a kiss, Obluchkov came.in... Well, naturally .. it was embarrassing, after all! He split it, the swine!"

This was too much for Obluchkov.

Trembling, oblivious to everything else, thirsting for vengeance, he tore at the door-handle and shot into the brilliantly lit room. Three little old men were sitting at a green table. They were smoking cigarettes and glancing at one another with oily little eyes.

Obluchkov flew up to the table and clenched his fists, muttering. The little old men turned their astonished little eyes on him...

"What do you want?" asked a grim voice. "Who, eh, permitted this... young man?"

"I... I... Your Excellency..." mumbled Obluchkov, bowing his head as of habit before those eyes and that peremptory voice.

"What do you want, sir? Have you been eavesdropping?"

"I... My apologies, Your Excellency .. If I'd known, I... I wouldn't have come home, Your Excellency... My apologies... I didn't realise... Please forgive me... I shall go out on Saturday."

That is what he said; but what he really wanted to do was to hit that glossy bald pate!

U. S. Tour By Violinists

The celebrated violin Trio L. Vaidyanathan, Dr. L Subramaniam and Dr. L. Shankar, and the great Mridangam player Palghat Mani Iyer, have returned from an extensive and triumphant tour of U S A. They had packed audience and recieved long standing ovation in USA wherever they performed On the last concert of their Tour, at New York all the 4 incredible maestros were felicitated. Mr. John McLaughlin, one of the greatest musicians of the West, conferred the title 'Sangeetha Chakravarthi" to the Trio brothers and "Tala Vadya Chakravarthi" to Palghat Mani Iyer on that occasion.

After their successful tour of U S.A, the brothers with Palghat Mani Iyer toured all over India during Music season, performing 23 concerts in 6 weeks.

They appeared in T.V. Bombay and Madras, gave recitals before invited audience in A.I.R. Trivandrum, Hyderabad, Vijayawada and recorded Programmes for A.I.R. Bangalore and Visakapatnam. They were felicitated by many Cultural organisations in India.

From previous page

Pioneers Of Transport

Over the years Bacon spent a fortune in pursuing his experiments. In his study, surrounded by instruments he often made himself, he delved into mathematics, astrology, astronomy and alchemy. In 1250 he returned to Oxford and it was probably about this time that he decided to become a Franciscan monk.

Back among the scenes of his happy student days Bacon continued his researches for some eight years, his gifts quickly recognised by English scholars. But his revolutionary ideas about science upset the Church and Bacon was forbidden to lecture or to go near his observation tower where he used to view the heavens.

These strictures were followed by exile to Paris and virtual imprisonment by his Order They put him on a diet of bread and water and sought to starve his mind by confiscating his books and instruments, forbidding him to speak with other scholars, even his own brother, and supervising everything he wrote.

There was only one light now in his dark life - John, the young man appointed to look after his needs, became his pupil and disciple, proving the effectiveness of Bacon's teaching methods. In spite of the strictness of his imprisonment Bacon managed to get a message to the new Pope, Clement IV in 1265.

Indian Ornithologist Wins U. S. Award

Vice-President Nelson Rockefeller announced on February 2 that Dr. Salim A. Ali, India's leading ornithologist and conservationist is the 1975 winner of the J. Paul Getty Wildlife Conservation Prize of the World Wildlife Fund. The 50,000 dollar prize will be awarded at a dinner in Salim Ali's honour on February 19, in Washington, D.C.

The prize was made possible by a gift from Mr. Getty to the World Wildlife Fund. It is intended to give recognition to the world's outstanding wildlife conservationist. The prize was first awarded in 1975 to Felipe Benavides of Peru by Vice-President Rockefeller.

An international jury, chaired by H R H. Prince Bernhard, the Prince of the Netherlands, International President of World Wildlife Fund, selected Dr Ali who was one of 475 nominees (778 nominations) from 53 countries.

Within India, Salim Ali's name is synonymous with conservation in a country said to have lost 90 per cent of its wildlife in this century. No other Indian has been more instrumental in reinforcing government initiatives of establishing parks and reserves to protect threatened and endangered species.

He is President of the Bombay Natural History Society, the oldest private biological organization of the Indian sub-continent. The bulk of the society's current activities reflect his concerns. The Wild Animals (Protection) Act passed by the Indian Parliament in 1972 is modelled on legislation drafted by the society. Many of the World's most eminent naturalists have published articles in the society's 90 year-old 'Journal" Under Dr. Ali's guidance, the society has initiated a programme creating wildlife booklets for school children.

In 1953, Salim Ali helped create the Indian Board for Wildlife. It serves asthe country's highest advisory board for wildlife policy matters. As chairman of the board, Dr. Ali was responsible for shifting up the famous Bharatpur Bird Sanctary, the most interesting wildlife reserve in India for water birds.

Once a private hunting reserve for the maharajas of the state of Bharatpur (now merged into the State of Rajasthan), the Keoladeo Ghana Sanctuary, as it is called, locally, is a home for 250 bird species. The highly endangered Siberian crane still winters in India today due to the existence of the sanctuary.

In Maharashtra state, Dr. Ali has been personally responsible for helping the state set up the Borivili Park, a reserve and tourist attraction north of Bombay, with historic religious caves as well as fine local jungle.

Salim Ali, who was educated in India and Germany, is now 80 years old. During those years, he has published over 300 scientific articles and six books. Among them is the monumental work, "The Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan," "co-authored with S. Dillon Ripley, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. At least 2,000 species of birds have been recorded in India. Dr. Ali's first book published in 1941, "The Book of Indian Birds," has been reprinted more than ten times and is still a bestseller.

World Wildlife Fund is a private, non profit publicly supported international organization which has financed over 19 million dollars for scientific research and conservation projects to preserve endangered species and natural areas. The fund is represented by 26 independent national affiliates, one of them in the United States.

The Most Powerful Creature

By DMITRY PETROW

Once upon a time there lived a huge lion, One day the lion decided to travel round the world, to see and be seen. He strode around, shoutingi:

"I'm the strongest I'm the master!"

A crow flew by and heard him boasting.

"Cr-roak! Cr-roak!...Don't boast, silly lion. Man is the strongest in the world!"

The lion ran off to look for man to measure swords with him.

He ran and ran and saw a strange beast with long ears. The beast roared so loud that even the lion was a bit scared at first, but then he screwed up enough courage to ask him menacingly.

"Are you a man?"

"How can I be a man? I'm an ass. I saw a man over there, beyond that mountain."

The lion ran on. He saw a fox. The lion pinned her down by the tail and asked:

"Are you a man?"

"Why? I'm only a little fox. Man is there, beyond that mountain."

The lion let the fox go and ran on to look for man. He ran and suddenly he fell into a deep pit. He tried to get out, but couldn't.

Then the lion began to cry with grief. He saw somebody coming tothe pit.

"Dear beast," the lion cried out miserably, "help me out of the pit!"

"I'm not a beast, I'm a man. Come on then, I'll help you out."

The man threw a rope round the lion's paws and pulled him out.

Then the ferocious lion hung his shaggy head and went away humbly.

The Wild North

The oil rush in Alaska has brought a great many gentle men of fortune there, writes the West German "Stern" magazine in an article entitled "Alaska: Fist Law in the Wild North." The number of bars, saloons and gaming houses is growing, fights are common, Eskimos and Indians are brutalized. The "New York Times" writes that the fist fights in many Alaskan towns are reminiscent of the free-for-alls in Wild West films.

His Remedy

The Rev. Paul Tinlin of the Assembly of God Church says death sentences could be the most effective means of combating crime in the United States. Moreover, he says, the executions should be public and also televised.

Roger Bacon

The Pope asked Bacon to write an encyclopedia of all scientific law and theory and Bacon set to work with enthusiasm. Although severely hindered by lack of money and facilities, he produced this masterpiece with in a year and entrusted the precious manuscript to John to deliver to the Pope

The conclusions of decades of research were now recorded for posterity. Some of the most extraordinary and interesting items concerned Bacon's views of future means of transport. He predicted that men would one day sail the seas in vessels without men to row them, achieving great speeds with only a man to steer.

Bacon also astounded his readers by anticipating the invention of the automobile and the submarine, writing of "chariots" that would move without using the power of men or beasts, and of "instruments" which would enable men to walk on the bottom of the sea and discover its secrets.

His knowledge of foreign languages meant he was able to read accounts of the few attempts at manned flight already made, in particular that of George of Trebizond, who had met his death in a short gliding flight. Bacon did not accept the Church's verdict that this was the will of God.

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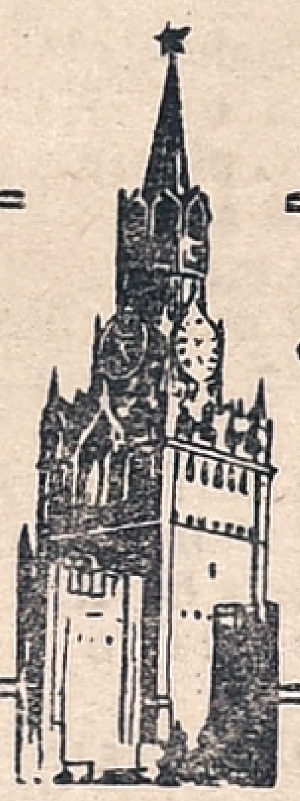

Muscovite's Diary

Ivan Ivanov

INDIA IN SOVIET PAINTINGS

India, the land and its people are a very favourite subject with some of the top-ranking Soviet painters who have even undertaken special trips to India to paint these subjects. Dmitry Nalbanyan people's Artist of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic, some of whose best canvases were recently on view in Moscow, is one of them. Academician Nalbandyan has been awareded two state prizes of the USSR and holds a pr eminent place in Soviet pictorial art. The range of his paintings include History, past and present, outstanding personalites of the world, landscapes and others.

Mr. Nalbandyan paid his first visit to India in the year 1957 and reaped a rich harvest of over 300 paintings. He describes the opportunity he got to paint Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi as his good fortune. 'My task was difficult and the time limited, all the more that I wanted to portray the image not only of a clever and charming woman, but also an outstanding stateswoman", he says.

Nalbandyan was awarded the Nehru Prize for his contribution to the promotion of Soviet-Indian friendship through art.

Another artist who has been captivated by India is Ilya Glazunov, also a Nehru Award winner. His importance as an artist can be gauged from the fact that L.I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chose his painting of Mrs. Indira Gandhi for presentaionto India's Prime Minister.

"When working on the portrait of Indira Gandhi", he seys, "I thought of the portrait painters of the 18th—19th centuries who strove to bring out the main points in the humanbeing—his spiritual essence, his inner world".

Among the other artists charmed by India are Nikolai Ponomarev, Sculptor Pavel Bondarenko, the People's Artist from Azerbaijan Mr. Tagrul Narimanbekov and the Nehru Laureate Marism Aslanezyan, a lady who enjoys painting Indian women. And naturally her portrait gallery is also crowned by a picture of Indira Gandhi. Critics have commented that the portrait conveys Indira Gandhi's scientillating personality.

* * *

SOVIET PRESS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY

Leading Soviet newspapers and magazines have focussed attention on the problem of collective security in Asia in view of the fact that Asia, with a majority of world's population is expected to contribute to the prosperity of the world. This is possible only if the Asian states accelerate their developmental programmes in conditions of peace and security, they stress.

The internatioual forum in Helsinki on the problems of security and cooperation in Europe stirred up the world public and inspired the peoples for fresh efforts in the creation of a solid foundation for peace in the world.

Actually the idea of the Asian collective securty is nothing new since itwas put forward by the Soviet Union as earlp as the 1930 s when the clouds of a second world ware beginning to gather over Europe and Asia. This idea, which originally took the forum of a draft regional pacific pact, was a logical conclusion of the struggle of the USSR for security in Europe and an integral part of the struggle for collective security in the entire world.

It is noteworthy that the code of peaceful relations among the states procalmed in the 50's in Bandung and the principles adopted in the 70's in Helsinki include many common features.

Soviet papers have expressed the view that realization of the idea of collective sesurity in Asia will help remove the remnants of the "cold war" blocking the way to a more solid peace in the world and will promote social reform in the developing countries and a higher living standard there. As in the conditions of European peace", the papers point out, "everyone will be a victor in conditions of collective security in Asia": Above all, this will create favourable conditions for the acceleration ef the process of disarmament and for the redistribution of the tremendous resources from the military sphere to the civil one, the papers have noted.

The idea of collective security in Asia is also of particular relevance today because of the dangerous consequences of the spread of nuclear weapons and it pre-supposes the liquidation of foreign military bases and the dissolutiou of military—political blocs.

* * *

RECORDING VOICE OF NATURE

It is now 15 years since a gramophone record appeared, with no particular publicity, and promptly sold out.

It was called Bird Song round Moscow and consisted of field recordings made by Boris Vepri-

(Contd. on opposite page)

From previous page

Pioneers Of Transport

Roger Bacon

Bacon knew the failure resulted from man's muscles being unable to support his body in bird-like flight and wrote of the need for an engine. At first he stuck to the idea that man would have to imitate a bird as closely as possible and visualised an aviator beating the air with artificial wings.

In other works Bacon decided that the way to solve the weight problem was to build an apparatus light enough to lift a passenger off the greund and keep him in the air. He described a gigantic globe of thin metal, fillled with the thin air of the upper atmosphere or liquid fire rising heaven wards.

This rudimentary concept of the balloon was the first serious recorded instance of the lighter than-air principle and gives to Bacon an early place in the history of flight. Bacon's brilliant mind travelled in many directions, and he may have been the first to invent gunpowder for he wrote explicit instructions for its preparation.

He also made extensive research into optics, foretelling that by the use of lenses man would be able to study the sun, moon and stars. When his 14 year-imprisonment ended, in the one year left to him before his death in 1292, he no doubt spent many contented hours in his beloved observation tower in Oxford.

(NEXT WEEK—GEORGE SHILLIBEER)

(*END*)

From page 4

shortage. The fantastic surge in the prices of imports namely, oil chemicals. machineries and food, have made our balance of payments position rather very awkward. ways and means are being evolved to improve this position.

20-POINT PROGRAMME

The 20-point Economic Programme announced by the prime Minister of India, has come as a boon to the weaker sections of the community who form 90 p r cent of the popula tion. It has upheld the cause f the po r, helpless agricu tural workers and landless persons. Vulnerable sections of the community have been assured on better life by this programme. The moratorium of rural debta, abolition of bonded labour, provision of employment to the needy, redistribution of land to landless persons, form the core 20-point programme. The implementation of the programme would have become impossible, if there would not have been emergency. The anti-social elements in society, backd by corrupt people would have exploited the common people. The measures that have been implemented since the introduction of emergency, have acted as bombshell to anti-social elements. India's success in achieving stability in price level, in increasing agricultural and industrial production is a matter of satisfaction and justifiable pride. The measures have brought about harmonious industrial relations a d alround discipline in the country. All these will shortly contribute to achieve a faster rate of growth of economy. As the Prime Minister has pointed out the sustained hard work by all sections of society, is the only guarantee for achieving accelerated growth with social justice.

From page 5

sociological role of the women police.

Another important feature which calls for careful examination is the mode of deployment of the women police units. The practice in various States are by no means uniform and have apparently been adopted on an ad hoc b sis. As a first step it would be necessary to determine the requirements of women police in every town and city on the basis of a proper analysis of such factors as population, incidence of crime committed by women juveniles and participation of women in political or other agitations. On the basis of these studies they should be put on various police posts to get the best advantage of that force. The time to initiate the steps which would make women police into an ideal adjunct to the police force in the country is now, we are still in the initial stages of development of the organisational structure of this police force.

Airline Reservations In Three Seconds

By JOHN F. WEBB

Travellers can now book and confirm airline reservations on the other side of the world in three seconds, because British Airways have introduced a world-wide reservation system.

The multi million pound sterling compnter system links 650 city offices to a giant central computer which went into service recently at the Heathrow airport, London To be known as BABS, the new system takes over former BEA (British European Airways) and BOAC (British Overseas Airways Corporation) systems which are now being retired after 10 years' service.

British Airways claims that BABS is unrivalled in the world. For instance, it will allow a passenger in Sydney (Australia) to book and confirm a reservation from Birmingham in the English Midlands to Dusseldorf in Federal Germany in less than it takes to say it.

FLIGHT DETAILS

The BABS computer is now carrying full booking details of 13m passengeas a year, flight details of 70 other airlines, the complete range of British Airways package holidays and all the facilities for handling ground support service requests and a hotel reservation service.

Now that the BEA and BOAC reservation systems have been merged, the central computer will receive messages from 2,000 computer terminals all round the world. At peak times it will handle 50 a second.

A British Airways spokesman said in London: "This successful implementation of the most comprehensive system in the airlines world represents a technical achi vement of the fi st order."

SUPERSONIC HOLIDAY TOUR

British Airways also announced that it is to introduce supersonic inclusive tours by the Concorde from March 1.

What is described as the wo ld's first supersonic package will be a £742 four-day holiday in Bahrain. Holidaymakers will fly from London by the Concorde on M nday and return the following Thursday.

Mr. Gerry Draper, Director of British Airways travel division, said: "The package is aimed mainly at the business traveller; but is also expect d to appeal to the 'jet set'. For the businessman the package will prove a boon because it guarantees him accommodation in an area where hotel beds are at a premium."

CBI Officer on Study Visit

Mr. V. R. Lakshminarayanan, Joint Director in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), New Delhi, who been the guest of the Rrrathclyde police force in Scotland, hopes to brinw home some new methods of treating the root cauese of crime.

He was in Scotland in the course of a three-month visit to Britain, arranged under the Britain, Poilce as part of the Indian manpowent project.

The Strahclyde Police force covers the city of Glasgow and a lrrge area of south wast Scotland. Mr. L k hminarayanan toured the new h adquarters—opened only last Sept mber—and saw the computer cont ol system, one of the most advanced in the world.

The computer link-up at the headquarters can monitor incidents in any part of the Greater Glasgow connabation, enablice cars to be on the scene in a matter of miuntes. Simultaneously, information is processed for police records and also far the purposes of police deployment.

At the headquarters, Mr. Lakshminaryanan also met P lee Constable Sharon Mathru, the first Indian policewoman to join the Strathclyde force. He was particularly impressed by the force's communitp involvement. branch a special unit whose aim is to prevent crime by establishng good relations with the public and especially young people.

Mr. Lakshminaraynan said: "For too long, all police forces have beed treating th symwtoms of crime. I hope to transplant to India some of these uew methods of treating the root causes."

Highlights of MRL Performance

Crude run reached a new record of 2 7 million tonnes. Cooking gas production was 3500 tonnes against 25800 tonnes of last year.

Because of the shift in demand, production of High viscosity index Lube Base Stocks was maximised and 99000 tonnes of HVI Lube Base Stocks was produced. The previous highest was 77000 tonnes.

In view of the steep rise in energy costs, an all round effort was made to bring down fuel consumed in the Refinery. As a result of this, fuel consumption in the refinery was reduced by 0.4% over the previous year's consumption. This represents a saving of rupees 8 million per year at current crude cost.

From previous page

ntsev, a biology student and nature lover.

Since then the disc has been re-issued and sold steadily.

Veprintsev has become a professor of bi lo y, but has not forsaken his old h bby.

He has now compiled another seven secords, of the s ngs of birds of Central Russia, the North, the Ukraine, Transcaucasia, the Pamirs, the Sovi t Far E st and Central Asia.

These records not only sell all over the Soviet Union but have also been press d in France and Japan.

All told, he has captured the voices f 250 species, and his r cordings have formed the basis of a "Sounds of Nature" library set up by the Academy of Sciences in Pushchino, near Moscow.

Profe sor Veprintsev has been appointed curator.

It provides tapes for other scientific bodies, individuals and schools for which they furnish a wond rful illustration to nature study.

INCOME OF RURAL WORKERS FAST INCREASING

The gap between the incomes of the rural and urban workers is fast increasing, thanks to the wage policy of the Soviet Goverment Ivan Goroshkin, a leading official of the Soviet Com ittee on Labour and Wages said in an interview that a other important aim of the Soviet wage pol cy was the gradual equalisation of the incomes of the workers differing in the level of pay.

Over the past Five year plan period (1971 75) wages and salaries were inc esed for more than 75 million Soviet people. Workers and employees had a 20 per cent increase, and the pay of the collective farmers rose by 25 per cent A special feature of the Soviet economy is that there is no inflation and, consequently, wage increases do not lead to corresponding increase in the prices of commodities. This has substantially increased the purchasing power of the people. The average four-member Soviet family in 1974 began to buy 575 more roubles worth of goods than at the start of the planning period.

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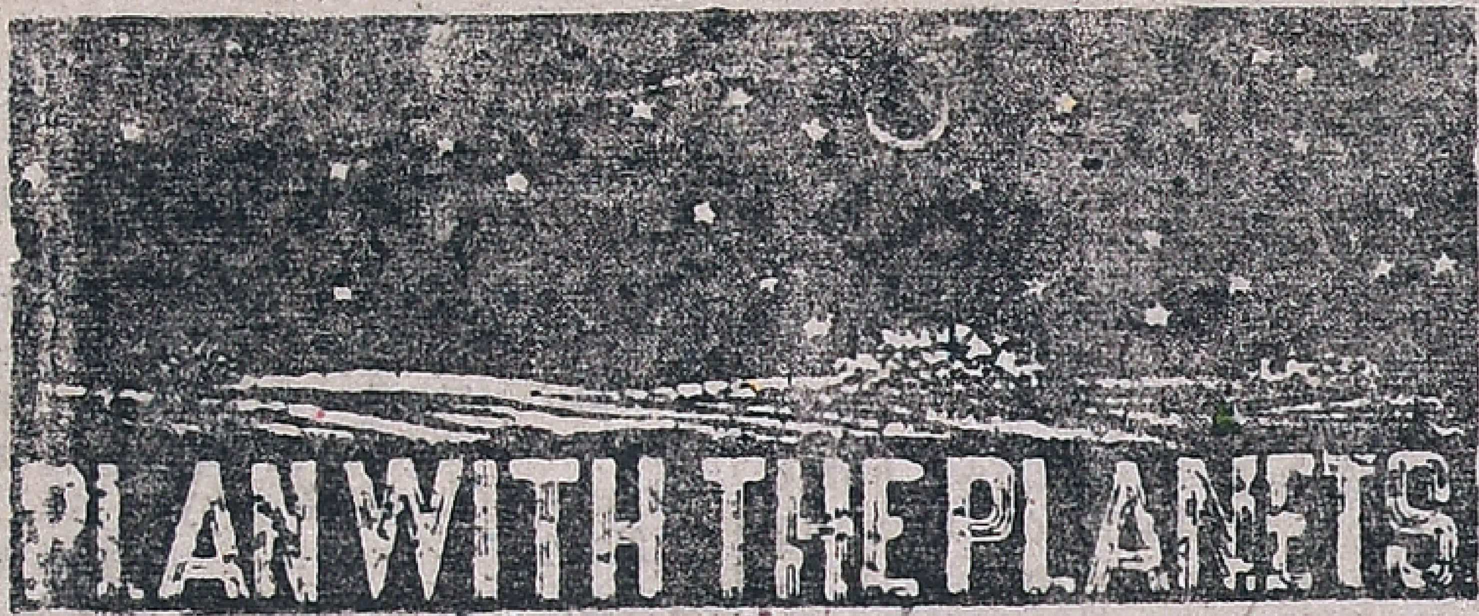

For the Week 15th February to 21st February 1976

MESHA

FAMILY matters require attention. You may have to shoulder additional responsibility. Financial position is not satisfactory. You have to wait for some more time to get complete relief from the financial difficulty. Regarding business, you will get new opportunities to improve your position. But you should handle partnership matters with care. Favourable days 17.2.76 & 18.2.76. Avoid arguments on 16.2.76.

★

VRISHABA

THIS is the proper time to think and plan for future. You can achieve your ambitions if you handle the situation properly. You are going to enjoy popularity and you are going take up responsible position shortly. You may be undertaking a journey and its outcome will be favourable. There will be improvement in your working conditions and some changes are indicated regarding profession. Favourable days 19.2 76 & 20.2.76.

★

MITHUNA

YOU are slowly coming out of the difficult situation. Need not worry about the past conditions. It will be cleared soon and you can start implementing your plan. You may have to satisfy family members, by spending more amount than anticipated. Health needs attention. Avoid journeys for some more time. Favourable days 15.2.76 & 16 2.76.

★

KATAKA

YOU are still under unfavourable planetary influence. You should take extra precaution in handling important matters. Family matters are not satisfactory and you should be sympathetic and patient to avoid friction and partings. Payments will be delayed. Avoid speculations. Matters relating to house or building requires attention. Favourable days 19.2 76 & 20.2 76.

★

SIMHA

PRESSURE of work and responsibility increases. So try to organise your work in such a way to have enough time for relaxation. Financial position is not favourable. There will be delays in getting letters and disturbances in phone and other communication systems are indicated. Partnership matters require attention and you should be careful in handling the situation to avoid friction. Favourable days 17.2.76 & 21.2 76.

★

KANYA

FAVOURABLE period. Try to implement your plans as early as possible. There will be improvement in working conditions. Speculative gains are also indicated. You are still having time to finalise partnership matters favourably. If you miss this opportunity, you will not get a favourable period in the near future. Family matters require attention. Avoid arguments with family members. Favourable days 18 2 76 & 21.2.76.

★

THULA

HOUSE or building matters require attention. You may be able to finalise the transaction in this matter advantageously. You may be also spending more money for clothes and decorating your house. You will worry about the affairs of children. Avoid speculations and also friction with partners. Unless it is important, you should not undertake journeys for some more time. Favourable days 15.2.76 & 16.2.76.

★

VIRSCHIKA

PROPERTY matters require attention. You will be acquiring new property in the near future. Consider all factors before finalising the transaction. Speculative gains are also indicated. Avoid friction with Partners. Favourable days 17 2.76 & 18.2.76.

★

DHANUS

MILDLY favourable period. Financial position will improve. You will get help and support from the senior member of your family. Try to organise the necessary changes in your working conditions, as early as possible. You still have time to settle property matters favourably. Matters relating children require attention. Favourable days 17.2.76 & 18.2.76.

★

MAKARA

NEW opportunities will be created, to improve your working conditions. You will also get an opportunity to undertake a journey regarding business matter. The outcome of such a journey will be favourable. If you are thinking of buying new clothes and ornaments, this is the proper time. But avoid friction with family members. Partnership matters should be finalised as early as possible. Any delay in this regard will create complications later. Be prepared for unexpected developments on 15 2.76 & 16 2 76.

★

KUMBHA

FAVOURABLE period continues. Utilise this opportunity to make the necessary changes in domestic and business matters, Property matters require attention and there may be some delay in this matter. Avoid journeys. Health also needs attention. Senior members of your family will extend their support. Avoid impulsive actions on 17.2 76 & 18 2.76.

★

MEENA

FINANCIAL gains are indicated. But you will find it difficult to save considerable amount. Family matters continues to give some trouble. There will be delays in finalising property transactions. Should not undertake journey, unless it is necessary. Matters concerning children require attention. Favourable days 15.2.76 & 16.2.76. Avoid hasty decisions on 21.2 76

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From page 11

efforts to introduce science and technology on an extensive scale in rural development are indeed laudable. Let us remember what James P Grant, President of the Overseas Development Council (U.S A) says. I quote:

"This reallisation has stimulated an increasingly insistant theme among leaders as diverse as Indira Gandhi of India, Luis Echeverria of Mexico, Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines, and World Bank president Robert McNamara: that we need development policies which benefit all strata of the population and not just a favoured minority. Senator Hubert Humphrey has spoken of:

...the veritable intellectual revolt among scholars of development who are turning against the long-held view that growth alone is the answer that will trickle benefits down to the poorest majority. (They) start from the proposition that the poorest majority must share in the work of building a nation and must share more equitably in the fruits of development at the outset...Greater equity and greater participation, instead of taking a toll on growth, support and reinforce it.

The experience of several less-developed countries offers encouraging evidence that an effective mixture of domestic and international policies can create new jobs, increase social services, reduce income disparities, and check population growth—without deterring, overall economic growth. We are learning that if small rural and urban producers and under employed workers are given access to education, credit, technology and health services, then they too can become highly productive, with a high capability for savings and effective investment".

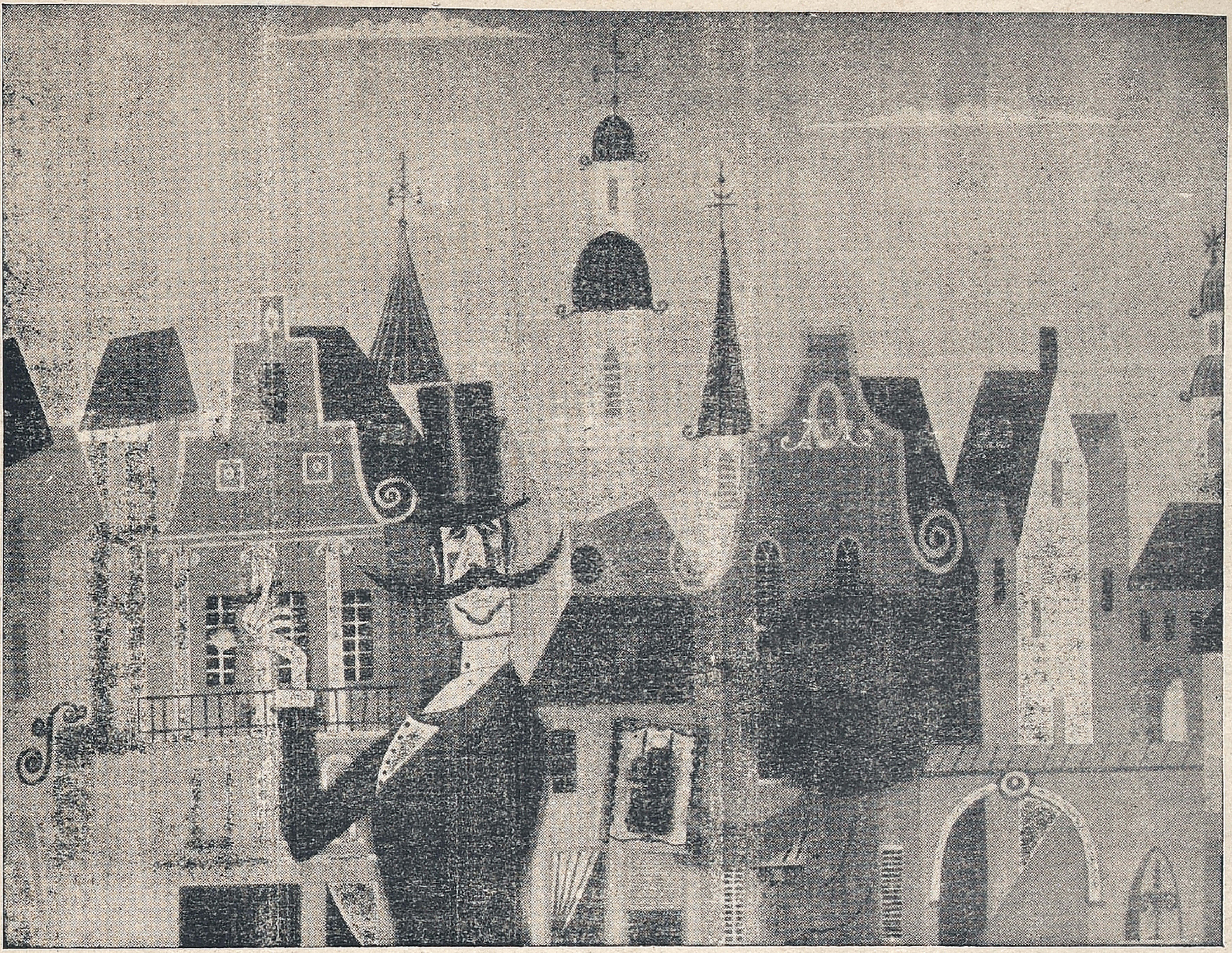
It is hence imperative that the intrinsic and effective development of a country has to start from below, i e. from the village level up.

The Gandhigram Rural Institute under the dynamic leadership of Shri G. Ramachandran has been doing yeoman service in the field of rural extension work. It is noteworthy that over half a century they have established perfect understanding and rapport with a large number of villages in their area. The most significant achievement of Gandhigram is the very evidence "acceptance" by the villagers themselves of the services rendered by Gandhigram to the rural sector.

Inside the campus of the Gandhigram, a good number of small scale/Cottage industries have been set up. These units like the Soap making unit, Paper making unit, the Oil unit and a few others seem to be eco omically feasible and also profitable. There is no problem of lack of clientele for the products. These industries are not capital intensive but labour intensive so that employment for a large number of persons is guaranteed. What now may be attempted and perhaps what seems to be essential to be attempted is to establish such successful units in the several villages around Gandhigram.

Matrimonial News

"A turbulent era of experimentation and change is under way in the American family," says the "U.S. News and World Report" weeklyr "Marriage bonds are loosening" and "divorce rates, already the highest in the world, continue to rise." "Missing persons" firms report that they are called on to find more runaway wives than husbands. Clergymen solemnize more and more 'four-person" marriages in which one husband-wife team marries another and shares household duties and sex.



A still from "Boni-face's Holiday"

Making The World A Better Place

Khitruk, the film director, speaks little of himself and always tries to minimise his merits as director, stressing all the while that the art which he serves is the most collective of all arts, and that the success of a particular picture is due alike to the talents, of the director, the artist, the script-writer and the composer.

Khitruk has special respect for the profession of a film-cartoonist, perhaps because he had worked as one for a long time before he became a director.

"The film-cartoonist is the actor in the cartoon picture," said the film-director. "After all, in order to depict the movements and the 'emotions' of even an inanimate object naturally, he must be absolutely certain about the way the 'character' moves, and in order to do that, the cartoonist must be able to imagine himself a poisonous mushroom, or an aeroplane or a samovar..."

"History of a Crime" (1962), the first film Khitruk made as director, brought him success, popularity, excellent reviews and awards at festivals. Since then, film-goers await every new Khitruk film with impatience.

While "History of a Crime" (artist Sergei Alimov) was a cartoon film for adults, a satire which wittily lampooned the egoism and the bad upbringing of the inhabitants of a house, "Toptyzhka" (Teddy bear) is a story for small children. It has all the ingredients necessary for a tale: a toy wood, cosy houses for the animals, a Russian-style stove, a round red sun, round red-breasted robins, slim-rowan-trees with flaming bunches of berries, sledges, and friendly, tea-drinking with two bear families. Done in the best traditions of Russian illustrations for fairy-tale books, "Toptyzhka" was an experiment in contourless drawing of animated cartoons.

In "Boniface's Holiday", based on a story by the Czech writer Milos Macourek, everything is imaginary as it should be in fairy-tale. Everything in the cartoons is elegantly drawn, brimming with ingenuity, good-will and humour—the curtain, the circus arena, the cosy little town, the funny little train, the toy sea and the tiny one-cabin ship that takes Boniface to Africa, the luxuriant nature of Africa and Grandma Lioness with her spectacles on the tip of her nose.

Two of Khitruk's latest pictures are devoted to important and vital problems of the present day. Both are done in the genre of the philosophical parable (artists Vladimir Zuikov and Eduard Nazarov).

The "Island", the film that got excellent notices at many film festivals and won the Grand Prix in Cannes, tells the story of a modern Robinson Crusoe on an uninhabited island. Crowds of curious people come to gape at the poor little bearded man but it never occurs to anyone to stretch out a helping hand until another unfortunate like him, who had suffered shipwreck, offers him half of the log he is floating on. It is easier for two to get out of the ocean!

The picture "I Give You a Star", also a winner at the last Cannes Festival, is dedicated to International Women's Year.

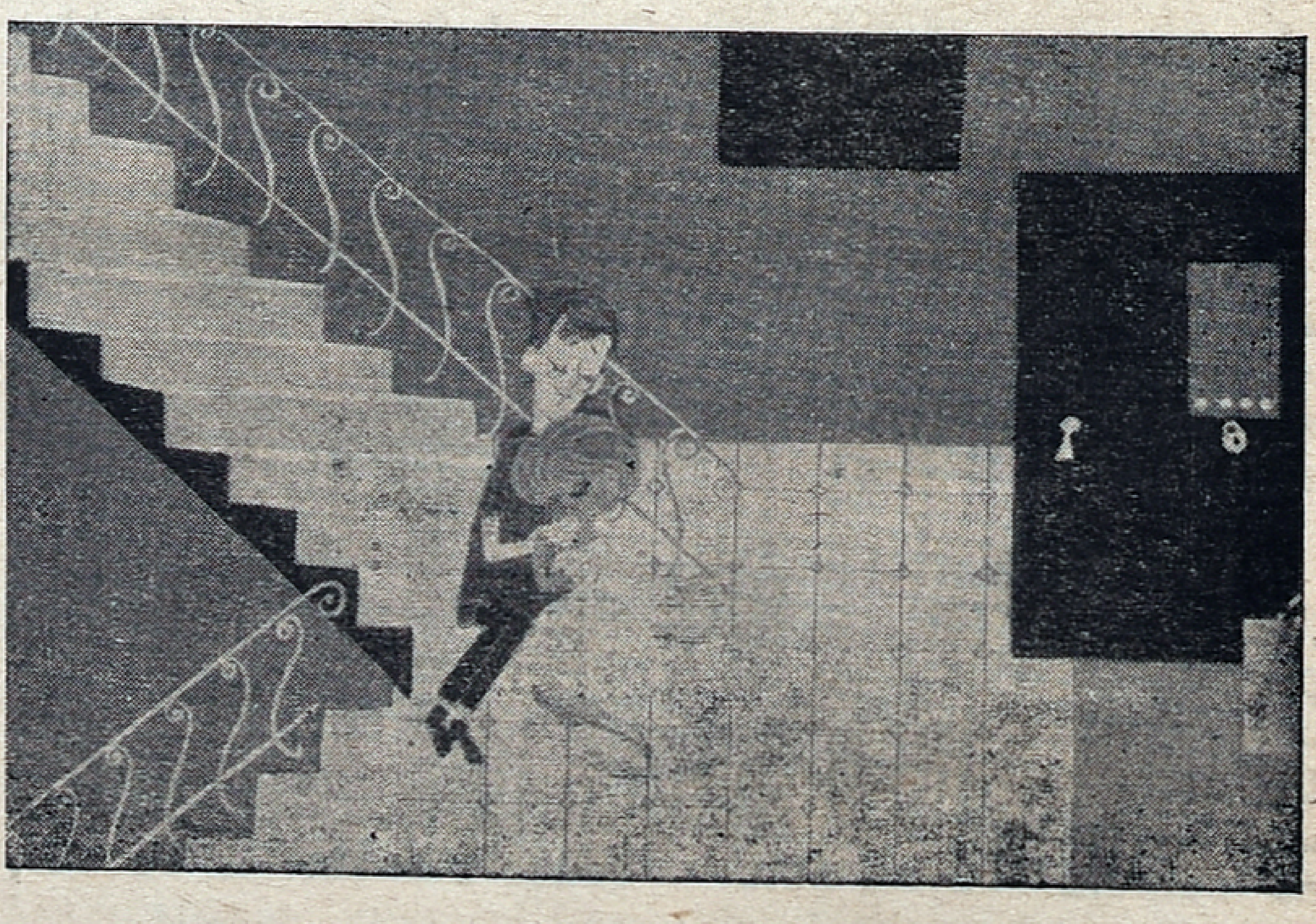
Every one of the films is interesting and significant in its own way. Variety is one of the most attractive features of Khitruk's directing style. But his aim is one—that of making the world a betterplace to live in.

(More pictures on page 12)

Om Sakthipriya, a cultural organisation, organised a function to honour the late Ghantasala, at the Sathyam Theatre recently. A souvenir was also brought out. Pictures show: (Top R) Mr B. N. Reddy addressing. (L) T. M. Soundararajan and P. Suseela sing a song. (Mid. R) Meera Ghantasala rendering prayer song (L) S. P. Balasubramaniam (Bottom. L) P. B. Sreenivos presenting his composition on Ghantasala to his sons Ravi and Shankar. (R) Film stars Chandrakala and Latha with others in a chorus.

—Photos A. Arumugam

Fyodor Khitruk



A sequence from a cartoon film on a historical subject

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